

The Worship of God

April 5, 2012

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Six Thirty O'Clock

*In preparation for this service of worship, meditate upon
the hymn printed on the cover of the order of worship.*

ORGAN PRELUDE: Prayer

Paul Creston

CHORAL INTROIT

Carl Mueller

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 210: "Ah, Holy Jesus"

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

(The congregation rises as the organist begins the hymn.)

* THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Why have you come to this place?

People: To worship the Lord and receive blessing from God.

Minister: Why have you come on this night?

People: To remember Jesus' sacrifice and his love for us.

Minister: Why have you gathered around this table?

People: Because it is a banquet of love and a feast of salvation.

Minister: Are you willing to eat this bread and drink this cup?

People: With God's help, his forgiveness, and his mercy, we are.

Minister: So be it. Let us worship the Lord in spirit and in truth!

* CHORAL ADORATION

John Stainer

God so loved the world.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Exodus 12:1-14

* HYMN 428: "An Upper Room with Evening Lamps Ashine"

Eventide

THE GOSPEL : John 13:1-17, 31b-35

HOMILY: "Do You Know What I Have Done?"

Dr. Wright

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

HYMN OF GRATITUDE 429: "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

FINEST WHEAT

THE RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Minister: God of life, we confess that we have journeyed to this day on winding paths and uncertain roads.

People: We confess that we have broken our Lenten disciplines by error and intent.

Minister: We confess that we have not listened carefully to your teachings or reflected honestly on your passion.

People: Forgive our unwillingness to recognize your grace in surprising places.

Minister: Pardon our unkindness toward others and our lack of love for ourselves.

A time of silence for personal confession.

Minister: Bless us now with Easter grace that we might be transformed and born anew into the resurrection of our Christ.

People: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE APPROACH TO THE TABLE: "Ubi Caritas"

Maurice Duruflé

Ubi caritas et amor

Where charity and love are,

Déus ibi est.

God is there.

Congregávit nos in únium Christi amor.

Christ's love has gathered us into one.

Exsultémus et in ípso jucundémur.

Let us rejoice and be pleased in him.

Timeámus et amémus Déum vívum.

Let us fear and love the living God.

Et ex córde diligámus nos sincéro.

And may we love each other

with a sincere heart.

Ubi caritas et amor

Where charity and love are,

Déus ibi est.

God is there.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

You are invited to come forward to receive communion. Forming two lines, please use the center aisle as you approach the altar and the side aisles as you return to your seat. If you prefer to remain seated, a Deacon will serve you. This evening we will take the bread and the cup by intinction, dipping the bread into the common cup. You will take a piece of bread from the plate offered by a Deacon and dip it into the chalice offered by one of the ministers. You may then place the bread in your mouth. A common response when taking communion is to say, "Thanks be to God." or a simple, "Amen."

THE PASSION READING: Matthew 26:36-56

* HYMN 197: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

ST. CHRISTOPHER

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE LIGHTS

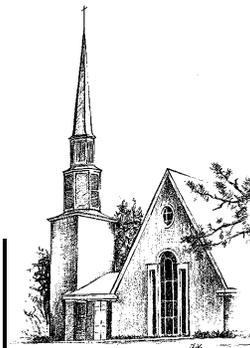
CHORAL BENEDICTION: "Stay With Us"

Egil Hovland

Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us, it soon is evening, and night is falling. Jesus Christ, the world's true light! Shine so the darkness cannot overcome it! Stay with us, Lord Jesus, it soon is evening. Stay with us, Lord Jesus, for night is falling. Let your light pierce the darkness and fill your church with its glory.

DEPARTURE IN SILENCE

* Congregation stands.



The Pivot of Hope

This day of dread and betrayal and denial
causes a pause in our busyness.

Who would have thought that you would take
this eighth son of Jesse

to become the pivot of hope in our ancient memory?

Who would have thought that you would take
this uncredentialed

Galilean rabbi

to become the pivot of newness in the world?

Who would have thought that you –

God of gods and Lord of lords –

would fasten on such small, innocuous agents
whom the world scorns

to turn creation toward your newness?

As we are dazzled,

give us the freedom to resituate our lives in modest,
uncredentialed, vulnerable places.

We ask for freedom and courage to move out from our nicely
arranged patterns of security

into dangerous places of newness where we fear to go.

Cross us by the cross, that we may be Easter marked. Amen.

Walter Brueggemann, *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth*

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Jody C. Wright
Senior Minister
Spencer Edwards
Acolyte

Elizabeth Edwards
Associate Minister
Mark Gansor
Organist

Amy Shortt
Minister of Music
Mary Frances Raper
Crucifer

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